

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claims 3-5, 7-11, 13 and 14, cancels claims 2, 6, 12 and 15 and leaves claims 1 and 16 unchanged. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 1, 3-5, 7-11, 13, 14 and 16.

Claims 2, 6, 12 and 15 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Bergsten (U.S. Patent No. 6,282,610 B1). As indicated above, claims 2, 6, 12 and 15 were canceled. Therefore, this rejection is rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

It should be noted that the cancellation of claims 2, 6, 12 and 15 was not intended nor should it be considered as an agreement on Applicants part that the features recited in claims 2, 6, 12 and 15 are taught or suggested by Bergsten. The cancellation of claims 2, 6, 12 and 15 was simply intended to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication in the Office Action that claims 1 and 16 are allowed.

Applicants also acknowledge the Examiner's indication in the Office Action that claims 3-5, 7-11, 13 and 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Amendments were made to claims 3-5, 7-11, 13 and 14 to place them in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, claims 3-5, 7-11, 13 and 14 are allowable as indicated by the Examiner.

Applicants further acknowledge the Examiner's "Important Notes" on page 7 of the Office Action regarding the Title of the Invention, the Summary

of the Invention and the Abstract. Applicants have reviewed each of these portions of the specification and have determined that no amendments are necessary. Particularly, Applicants submit that the title of the invention is in fact descriptive of the invention as now claimed as required by MPEP §606.01 and that the Summary of the Invention and the Abstract accurately summarizes the allowed claims as required by MPEP §1302.01. Accordingly, no amendment is necessary to the Title of the Invention, the Summary of the Invention and the Abstract.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 1, 3-5, 7-11, 13, 14 and 16 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 1, 3-5, 7-11, 13, 14 and 16 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (1309.43448X00).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.



Carl I. Brundidge
Registration No. 29,621

CIB/jdc
(703) 684-1120